

**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s)	Ranko, et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No.:	Unassigned	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Confirmation No.:	Unassigned	Docket:	442-134 PCT/US
Filed:	Herewith	Int'l Filing Date:	April 27, 2001
Int'l Application No.:	PCT/EP01/04776		
For:	CONNECTING DEVICE FOR FLUIDS	Dated:	December 19, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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*on December 19, 2001*

*Signature: Joyce Peterson*

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

**UNITED STATES PATENTS**

<u>PATENTEE</u>	<u>PATENT NO.</u>	<u>ISSUE DATE</u>
Yamazaki	4,533,020	August 6, 1985
Dunn et al.	5,372,392	December 13, 1994
Wolfe, Sr.	5,383,689	January 24, 1995
Stoll, et al.	6,039,358	March 21, 2000

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

<b><u>COUNTRY</u></b>	<b><u>PUBLICATION NO.</u></b>	<b><u>PUBLICATION DATE</u></b>
Germany	DE 94 09 753.4	October 27, 1994
Germany	DE 197 07 630.0	June 18, 1998
EPO	EP 0707696 B1	April 24, 1996
WIPO	WO 95/02149	January 19, 1995

**NON-PATENT PUBLICATIONS**

1. Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 7, No. 261, Pub. No. 58142084, August 23, 1983.

The above-referenced documents are listed on PTO Form 1449. We have enclosed the cited documents to facilitate reference to them.

In addition, each of the above-listed references was cited in the corresponding International and German applications. Accordingly, copies of the International and German Search Reports showing the degree of relevancy of each reference is also enclosed.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 442-134 PCT/US	SERIAL NO. Unassigned
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICANTS Ranko, et al.	CONFIRMATION NO. Unassigned
(Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP Unassigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,533,020	08/06/85	Yamazaki			
	5,372,392	12/13/94	Dunn et al.			
	5,383,689	01/24/95	Wolfe, Sr.			
	6,039,358	03/21/00	Stoll, et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	DE 9409753.4	10/27/94	Germany				
	DE 19707630.0	06/18/98	Germany				
	EP 0707696 B1	04/24/96	EPO				
	WO 95/02149	01/19/95	WIPO				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

			Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 7, No. 261, Pub. No. 58142084, August 23, 1983.

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EXAMINER \_\_\_\_\_ DATE CONSIDERED \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.